WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A stackable chair comprising a frame that includes legs and a pair of spaced-apart tubular back supports, a seat bottom mounted on the legs, and a backrest mounted on the back supports by resilient mount units for tilting between an upright position and a tilted-back position, characterized in that each mount unit includes a rigid coupling member having a lower portion received within an upper end portion of the respective back support and pivotally joined to the respective back support and having an upper portion received within and affixed to a socket in the backrest and in that each mount unit further includes a compression spring received within the upper end portion of the back support and engaged between the lower portion of the coupling member and a front wall of the respective back support so as to bias the backrest to the upright position.

2. The stackable chair according to claim 1, wherein the lower portion of the coupling member of each mount unit includes a cavity in which a portion of the compression spring is received.

3. The stackable chair according to claim 1, wherein the compression spring carries a low friction pad that is engaged between the spring and the front wall of the back support.

4. The stackable chair according to claim 1, wherein the coupling member of each mount unit is pivotally joined to the respective back support by a pivot pin that passes through a hole in the coupling member and holes in walls of the back support.

5. The stackable chair according to claim 1, wherein the lower portion of the coupling member of each mount unit includes a rear stop surface that engages a portion of the wall of the backrest support when the backrest is in the upright position.

6. The stackable chair according to claim 1, wherein the lower portion of the coupling member of each mount unit includes a front stop surface that engages a portion of the wall of the backrest support when the backrest is in the tilted-back position.

7. The stackable chair according to claim 1, wherein the lower portion of the coupling member of each mount includes a rear stop surface that engages a portion of the wall of the backrest support when the backrest is in the upright position and a front stop surface that engages a portion of the wall of the backrest support when the backrest is in the tilted-back position.

8. The stackable chair according to claim 1, wherein there is an armrest support associated with the frame and an armrest is mounted on the armrest support, characterized in that the armrest is slidably supported on the armrest support for simultaneous and controlled pivotal movement about a substantially vertical pivot axis of a rearward part of the armrest relative to a forward part of the armrest and translatory movement in a plane perpendicular to the pivot axis.

9. The stackable chair according to claim 8, wherein the armrest is biased to a use position and is pivotable and translatable against the bias to a storage position and in that when the armrest is in the use position the rearward part of the armrest is closer to the center of the seat bottom than it is when the armrest is in the storage position.

10. The stackable chair according to claim 9, wherein the armrest support has a substantially flat support surface, the arm rest is mounted on the armrest support for pivotal movement by a pivot pin that is affixed to the armrest support, and the pivot pin is received in an elongated slot in the armrest such that the armrest is able to translate relative to the armrest support.

11. The stackable chair according to claim 10, wherein the armrest has a motion control slot, a control pin is affixed to the armrest support and is received in the motion control slot, and the motion control slot is configured to control the extent and path of movement of the armrest relative to the armrest support.

12. The stackable chair according to claim 11, wherein the motion control slot is shaped and located such that the armrest is selectively retained in the use position and the storage position under the bias of the spring.

13. The stackable chair according to claim 12, wherein the motion control slot is generally L-shaped in plan.

14. A stackable chair comprising a frame that includes legs and a pair of spaced-apart back supports, a seat bottom mounted on the legs, a backrest mounted on the back supports, an armrest support associated with the frame and an armrest mounted on the armrest support, characterized in that the armrest is slidably supported on the armrest support for simultaneous and controlled pivotal movement about a substantially vertical pivot axis of a rearward part of the armrest relative to a forward part of the armrest and translatory movement in a plane perpendicular to the pivot axis.

15. The stackable chair according to claim 14, wherein the armrest is biased to a use position and is pivotable and translatable against the bias to a storage position and in that when the armrest is in the use position the rearward part of the armrest is closer to the center of the seat bottom than it is when the armrest is in the storage position.

16. The stackable chair according to claim 15, wherein the armrest support has a substantially flat support surface, the arm rest is mounted on the armrest support for pivotal movement by a pivot pin that is affixed to the armrest support, and the pivot pin is received in an elongated slot in the armrest such that the armrest is able to translate relative to the armrest support.

17. The stackable chair according to claim 16, wherein the armrest has a motion control slot, a control pin is affixed to the armrest support and is received in the motion control slot, and the motion control slot is configured to control the extent and path of movement of the armrest relative to the armrest support.

18. The stackable chair according to claim 17, wherein the motion control slot is shaped and located such that the armrest is selectively retained in the use position and the storage position under the bias of the spring.

19. The stackable chair according to claim 18, wherein the motion control slot is generally L-shaped in plan.